



COP29
Baku
Azerbaijan
UN CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE



UN Climate Change Conference (COP29)



Baku,
Azerbaijan



11 November to
22 November 2024



SIDE EVENT

Digital Natives Re-Imagining an Inclusive and Climate-Just World

Venue: Cote d' Ivoire Pavilion Date: 16 November 2024

Time: 11:00AM-12:30PM (GMT+4)

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Contextual Analysis

Digital technologies are emerging as powerful avenues for change. According to the [International Telecommunication Union \(ITU\)](#) and the [United Nations Development Programme \(UNDP\)](#), stakeholders should harness these technologies to ensure we meet the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Goals. Aligning with these digital and climate aspirations is [YOUNGO's COP29 Demands](#) which emphasizes the need of accelerating the role of technology in advancing and scaling up transformative climate solutions in developing countries. Cognizant of the potential of digital technologies in climate action, and in alignment with the SDG Digital Acceleration Agenda, the African Activist for Climate Justice (AACJ) Project has strategically been integrating digital tools in its climate justice efforts. This integration has demonstrated the effectiveness of digital activism in driving climate action and has shaped new narratives around the issue.

However, these technologies are not without their challenges for climate justice advocates. Digital climate activists are increasingly facing threats in the digital space, which tends to prioritize urban populations. This urban-centric approach raises concerns about the effectiveness of these technologies in supporting rural climate advocates. This is because many rural communities in Africa grapple with technological barriers, such as limited internet access and tech illiteracy, which can hinder their ability to fully engage in the digital landscape.

To protect climate activists and address the growing digital divide in the climate arena, PACJA's African Activists for Climate Justice (AACJ) Project launched the 'Power to Voices' platform in August 2023. The platform has since its inception provided an avenue for diverse activists to share their African climate narratives without fear of censorship or profiling. Power to Voices has also allowed climate activists to share experiences and approaches to climate justice advocacy through their distinct knowledge and stories.

It is against this backdrop that AACJ proposes to hold the Digital Natives side event at COP29. This event seeks to highlight the potential of digital natives in championing for an inclusive and equitable climate society, especially as the civic space continues to shrink. The event will also explore digital opportunities that promote inclusion and enhance the capacity of civil society organizations and frontline communities to utilize emerging technologies to accelerate SDG 13 on Climate Action, guided by the SDG Digital Acceleration Agenda.

Objectives

1. Explore digital opportunities in highlighting the potential of digital platforms and tools in AACJ countries to promote inclusion and amplify the voices of marginalized communities in accelerating SDG 13 on Climate Action.
2. Provide a platform for polishing on approaches for effective utilization of digital technologies in advocate for climate justice.
3. Shape new narratives and approaches through experiential learning of community impact integrating gender, indigenous peoples' rights, and technological advancements to address climate injustices.
4. Promote integrated and holistic approaches in advocating for comprehensive strategies that combine gender perspectives, indigenous knowledge, and technology to build resilient and inclusive communities.

Outcomes

1. **Policy and Advocacy Position** on Digital Technologies and Climate Action in Africa
2. Increased awareness where the audience will gain a deeper understanding of the role of digital technologies in promoting climate justice and inclusion, particularly in AACJ countries.
3. Creation of strategic partnerships to foster opportunities for collaboration among CSOs, digital platforms, and frontline communities, leading to strengthened partnerships for climate action.
4. Innovative solutions in sharing of innovative digital solutions that support climate justice initiatives and enhance civic engagement.

Partnerships

The side event will draw participation from AACJ Consortium Partners (PACJA, Oxfam in Africa, Africa Youth Commission, FEMNET, Natural Justice) who will explore how digital natives—youth have been organizing and mobilizing key constituencies to drive inclusive and equitable climate action. Participation from UNDP will also be explored to ensure alignment of the discussions with the SDG Digital Acceleration Agenda.

Agenda:

Digital Natives Re-Imagining an Inclusive and Climate-Just World

Date and Venue: 16 November 2024, 11:00-12:30PM- Cote d'Ivoire Pavilion

Time	Activity
	Overall Moderator: Lilian Khalai Mula-Project Officer- Program Management Unit AACJ
15 MINS	Success Story: Power to Voices and Climate Action in Africa
60 MINS	Panel Discussion: Integrating Digital Technologies into Climate Action: A Path to Inclusivity and Climate Justice in Africa. <ul style="list-style-type: none">▶ Anne Tek-Project Lead AACJ FEMNET▶ Joseph Ibrahim- Environmental Activist Power to Voices Platform▶ Lauretta Boniface- Environmental Activist Power to Voices Platform▶ Joe Bongay-Digital Climate Activist▶ Lucky-Digital Climate Activist▶ Representative from UNDP
15 MINS	Closing Remarks: <ul style="list-style-type: none">▶ Mr. Michael Dhatemwa- Project Lead, AACJ Oxfam Novib



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